THE FLORIDA SENATE 2015 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED

Committee on Community Affairs

CS/CS/SB 766 — Surveillance by a Drone

by Appropriations Committee; Judiciary Committee; and Senator Hukill

The bill prohibits a person, state agency, or political subdivision from using a drone to record an image of privately owned real property or people on private property with the intent to conduct surveillance on the individual or property and without written consent to do so. A current exception for certain law enforcement agency activity is expanded to include activities by property appraisers, utilities, aerial mappers, cargo delivery systems, and any other person or entity engaged in a business licensed by the state, subject to certain conditions. The bill authorizes an aggrieved party to initiate a civil action and obtain compensatory and punitive damages and injunctive relief for a violation of the law.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect 07/01/2015.

Vote: Senate 37-2; House 117-0

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